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Drainage scheme for the Tellicherry Municipality

* 2372 Q.—SRI C. KANDASAMY (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the Tellicherry Municipal Council and from M.L.As. of North Malabar urging the immediate taking up of a drainage scheme for the Tellicherry Municipality; and

(b) whether the Government have taken any action thereon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: (a) & (b) Yes, Sir.

Language used in Commercial Tax appeals

* 2373 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have changed the rule that appeals to Commercial Tax Officers against the assessment of sales tax should be filed in English?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: The Government have examined the question and consider that no amendment is necessary to the rule which requires that appeals against assessment to the Commercial Tax Officer should be written in English.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Sir, the Government have ambitious proposals for introducing the regional languages even for higher studies in our State and also for State administration. That being the case, will the Government make a humble beginning in this regard by allowing the ignorant and illiterate persons to file appeals in the regional language?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: Sir, I have made a detailed statement on this question at the last sitting of the House.

Absorption of the Wynaad Highway Gang Workers in the permanent cadre.

* 2374 Q.—SRI O. KORAN (on behalf of Sri M. K. Padmaprabha Gounder): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 43 (unstarred) given on 7th February 1955 the decision of the Government in regard to the question of absorption of the Wynaad Highway Gang Workers into the permanent cadre?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: In February 1955, it was stated that the proposal to provincialise the services of Road Inspectors in the Highways Department was under the consideration of the Government. It has since been decided to defer the proposal and to consider it in connection with the Budget for 1956–57. The Government have also decided to take up the general question of permanent retention of temporary workers in the Highways Department

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after the issue of orders on the proposal to provincialise the services of Road Inspectors, who supervise the work of gang mazdoors and other workers in the Highways Department. This general question will cover the question of permanent absorption of the Wynaad Highways Gang Workers.

Sale of ginger tonic in soda factories

* 2375 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM (on behalf of Sri D. Dasarathan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that licences are issued for the sale of ginger tonic in soda factories;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the persons who consume the ginger tonic are charged under the Prohibition Act; and

(*c*) whether the ginger tonic has been chemically examined and certified to be free from any intoxicants?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) *to* (*c*) No, Sir.

Arrests of betting on New York Cotton Prices

* 2376 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of people arrested during 1953 and 1954 for betting on New York Cotton Prices in the City of Madras?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : 1953—2,920.

1954—4,569.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : சமீபத்தில் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்ட சட்டத்திற்குப் பிறகு கூட இன்று இந்த சூதாட்டம் ஏராளமான அளவிலே நடக்கிறது. ஆகவே இதைத் தடை செய்வதற்கு சர்க்கார் மேலும் தீவிரமான நடவடிக்கை எடுப்பார்களா ?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : இப்போதுதான் சட்டம் திருத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்தச் சட்டத்தின் கீழ் இன்னும் தீவிரமான நடவடிக்கை இனிமேல் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்படும்.

SRI S. RAMALINGAM : கவர்ன்மெண்ட் எஸ்டேட் காம்பௌண்டுக்குள்ளேயே இந்த பஞ்சு மார்கெட் சூதாட்டம் நடப்பது சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியுமா ?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : கனம் அங்கத்தினருக்கு இது நன்றாகத் தெரியும் போலிருக்கிறது. விஷயம் சொன்னால் அதைப் பற்றி நடவடிக்கை உடனடியாக எடுக்கப்படும்.

***Survey** of raw materials in Pudukkottai Division*

* 2377 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—whether a survey of raw materials in Pudukkottai division, Tiruchirappalli district, has been made for starting (1) small-scale industries and (2) large-scale industries?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No, Sir.